



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,
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OXYTROPIS PARRYI
PARRY'S CRAZYWEED

Parry's Crazyweed is a low perennial with 1-4 leafless stems that are 2-7 cm high, and arising from a branched rootcrown. The basal, pinnately compound leaves have 9-19 narrowly elliptic, pointed leaflets that are 3-10 mm long. Membranous stipules are attached to the base of the long petioles. Foliage is covered with long, silky hairs. 1-3 sessile, pea-like, purple flowers are clustered at the tip of the stem. The upper banner petal of each flower is 7-10 mm long, bent forward, and barely longer than the lateral wing petals. The black-hairy calyx has 5 narrow lobes and is $\frac{3}{4}$ the length of the corolla. The ascending, narrowly egg-shaped pods are 15-23 mm long, covered with appressed black hairs, and have a short, pointed beak. Fruiting in mid-August.

OXYTROPIS PODOCARPA and *O. CAMPESTRIS* VAR *CUSICKII* may also have as few as 2-3 fruits per stem, but they differ from *O. PARRYI* in that the former has inflated pods, while the latter has light yellow flowers.